

# THE STICK TO THE CORE #7

THE  
FINAL  
BEATDOWN  
?





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## CREDITS

All content and interviews by me except THE WRONG SIDE by Dylan Chadwick.

All layouts by me, the one thing that still holds true.

Pictures by the ones who took them, I tried to credit them where possible.

Front cover drawing by Dzuki. I was looking for art and when flipping through a box of tour memorabilia I came across this drawing which was originally a CORNERED concert poster for a gig we did in Poland. What's cooler than animals moshing? Not a lot, so I figured this design deserved an extra spot in HC history. Thanks for letting me re-use it.

The back cover picture is of course from INTEGRITY's HITD back cover. I was gonna do a top 5 favourite record back cover live pictures. WIDE AWAKE's Schism 7" would have been up there, the one with the guitarists hat getting aired, but alas, another item I didn't finish. This INTEG picture is my favourite one, although now that I printed it, it does lose a lot of it's flavour in black'n'white (the blue sky, the bleached hairdos), still a cool shot though.

Thanks for all who've helped out and sorry for all the reviews I didn't do. Especially on the zine front. Corona spawned so many good ones, but a new job killed my time to properly read and rate them all.

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## BACK ISSUES

Some reprinted copies of #5 and #6 left. Email me your address for a shipping quote and how to get me your \$\$\$.

# BLAH BLAH BLAH DITORIAL

BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH

Yo, sup! Is this the end, my friend?  
Well not for the world, I'm sure, but for  
HASHTAG IT IS. I FEEL I START TO REPEAT  
MYSELF IN THE REVIEWS & INTERVIEWS AND THE  
WELL OF WITTINESS HAS DRIED UP. YOU'LL  
SEE AS YOU FLIP THROUGH THESE PAGES. DAMNY  
INTERVIEWS + REVIEWS AND NOT TOO MUCH CLEVER/FUNNY  
STUFF IN BETWEEN. AT LEAST I'M BACK TO A4  
SIZE AND ALL LOOKS PRETTY. I SET OUT TO  
DO THIS ZINE TO COVER THE CURRENT STATE  
OF HC PUNK, BUT AS THE YEARS GROW ON  
ME, I FIND MYSELF LISTENING TO THE CLASSICS  
MUCH MORE. FORTUNATELY THERE ARE EXCEPTIONS,  
WHICH ARE THE BANDS I INTERVIEWED!

TAKE CARE,

DAAN +-

# CORNERED

2015-2020: THE SEXDAAN YEARS





# DO YOU KNOW Hardcore?

Yo Hashtag Hardcore!

You asked for some interesting questions in the last issue of #HC.

**Do you have a cool Rick Ta Life story?** - It may sound weird, but I know some hungarian people who think that 25 Ta Life have the best songs and riffs in the history of hardcore. I think that's a cool story in itself. They played in Hungary a couple of times between 1998-2001, that was the era when the band covered "As One" by Warzone 3 times during their set. I heard a story about this Hungarian band called Dawncore playing with them in Poland and all of their cymbal stands were stolen by 25 Ta Life.

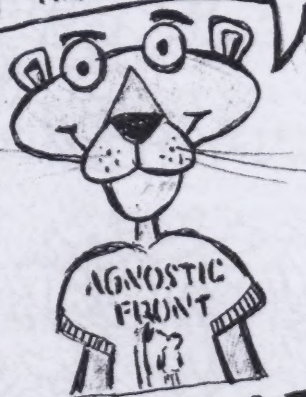
**Don't know if stage mosh is cool or just trendy?** - Sometimes moshing on the stage is so annoying, but if you want to mosh on stage, or if you want to be a stage potato, be a potato like Noel Gallagher and go for it! Just do what's good for you.

**Can't decide if you should allow bootleg records in your collection?** - There is a preconception held by many people, that bootleg records are really poor-quality, poorly packaged live recordings of interest only to a handful of collectors. It's true. Really true. But I have some live bootleg records in my collection which I really enjoy listening to. Cro-Mags Hard Times: Live At Wellington's (The Age of Quarrel lineup playing AOQ from start to finish, plus Crush the Demonic.) / Minor Threat - Black Sheep In Gotham (Live at Irving Plaza). Harley Flanagan and the Boston Crew are amongst many that can be heard singing along. Ian Mackaye delivers some snide stage banter, we also hear Ian telling Harley to quit sitting on the stage.) Oh, and it's soo funny for some reason, people still think that The Kids Will Have Their Say bootleg was made by Porcell.

**Want to brag about how many time you saw Cro-Mags with II and Harley?** - One of my great regrets. I have never seen the cro magnons with Harley and JJ. On the other hand I was at Harley's book signing event at Generation Records in 2016. After he found out my name he grinned. Harley told me that Attila the Hun was a powerful warrior, and he was a very successful man in an evil way. He is very respectful of my parents because they gave me this name.

OK. Daan, you rule and your fanzine rules too! #Hardcore for Hardcore.

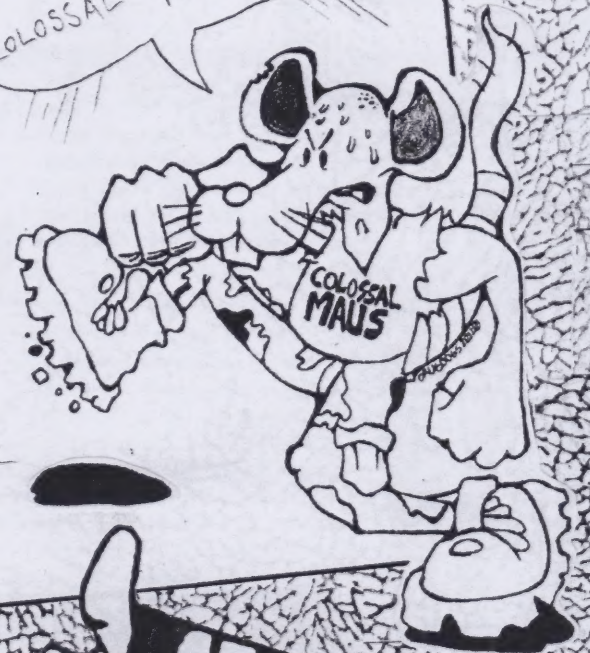
I REALLY DON'T LIKE SAYING OR WRITING THE WORD 'HARDCORE'!



#HARDCORE  
FOR Hardcore

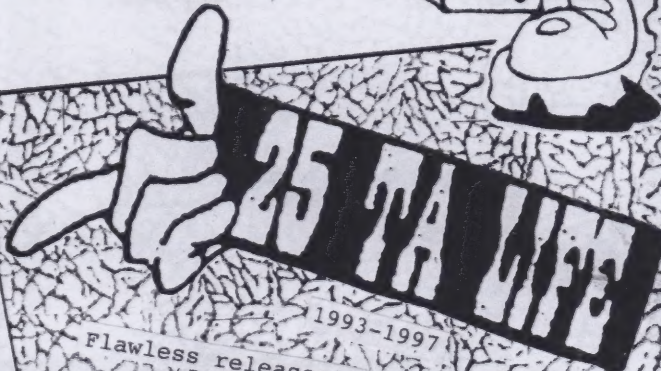
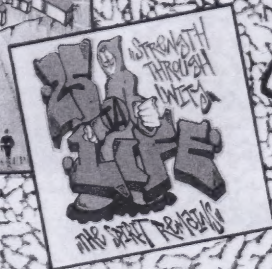
I REMEMBER THERE WAS A HORRIBLE PRACTICE IN THE EARLY YEARS OF MY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DAYS WHEN IT WAS MANDATORY TO DRAW SOMETHING FOR MY CLASSMATES' BIRTHDAY. I ALWAYS DREW PINK PANTHER. I DIDN'T DRAW ANYTHING ELSE.

SMALL FONTS,  
COLOSSAL FANZINE!



LETTERS

Thanks for writing Ati,  
much appreciated.



Flawless releases!!



The Seven Fat Years Ain't Over!



# BLIND TO

**#HC:** First of all, how bummed were you that because of all this covid shit your release show couldn't take place? Do you think your new LP kinda lost momentum because of this? Who else would have played that night?

Stijn: Very very bummed! We actually practiced our set for that show on Thursday evening March 12th, and Belgium went into Covid lockdown March 13th at noon. We hadn't played a live show in years and were really excited to start playing again with those new songs. Other bands on the bill were MINDWAR, GEWOON FUCKING RAGGEN, HAEMERS and my current favorite Belgian band: SLAVEMAKER.

It would have been better to promote the LP if we could have played some shows of course, but then again, Isolation Records / Evil Greed did an amazing job pushing the LP and via our own channels we also reached a lot of people. At this point the first pressing of 500 is nearly sold out, which is fucking cool!

It's been more than 10 years since we released our first LP, and I think "Unstoppable War" is a fitting soundtrack for this crumbling world.

**#HC:** The release show will be your first live performance with BTF since 2017. Not that you ever played out a lot with BTF but never before such a big hiatus. What was the reason? And how does it feel to perform with BTF whenever it was a long time since the last show?

Stijn: We were tired of our setlist back then and we really needed new material. Besides that, there's 3 of us living in Belgium and 2 in Holland, which mean that rehearsing is a solid two hour drive. Everyone was also busy with other bands, jobs, "life", etc and before you know it it's 2020 and you're in the middle of a pandemic and a societal meltdown.

Playing live with BLIND TO FAITH is always awesome for me and whenever we get together to rehearse or play a live show it just "clicks", no matter how long it has been. We always go full out, we're

a genuine band that plays as hard as we fucking can.

Whenever I step off the stage after a show I'm just totally depleted, both physically and mentally. There's a lot of good energy between us and I love playing with those guys. Nothing better then a crazy show with a crowd full of freaks and maniacs ready to rage, I can't wait to play the new songs live!

**#HC:** I got some old zines today and by chance, there was an old REPROACH interview from 2001. Here's your answer to what pisses you off in the Belgian hardcore scene:

*"Emo, kids that don't know the roots of hardcore, kids that say that hardcore should be "musical", so called "political" 16 year old kids who still go to school and live with their parents, kids that are more involved with talking shit on the internet than actually go to shows, people with no sense of humour, people that take themselves and everything else way too seriously, kids that follow all the idiotic scene trends like a bunch of sheep, ... just all the stupid scene bullshit."*



I hadn't heard much about BLIND TO FAITH since their last performance in 2017. I know they were supposed to be working on a new record, but after almost three years and still nothing I thought it probably just died out. Sometimes that is how life goes. But sometimes it is not! Last April shit got real again with a brand new LP and even some show announcements. With the world turning to shit I guess we'll have to see about the shows, but at least we now have nine new songs to soundtrack the ongoing apocalypse.

BLIND TO FAITH have been branded "punkmetal" from the start. And when I started to listen to this band, I thought they'd probably be too metal for hardcore punks and waaay too punk for metalheads. But what do you know, I would be proven very wrong at their scarce live gigs. You'll see crusties, headbangers, clapmoshers and your average hardcore kids slamming into each other like there's no tomorrow. As if a from-the-east-coast-to-the-west-coast-gotta-gotta-vibe got mashed up with a DISCHARGE meets SLAYER sound. Can I get a hell yeah? Thanks.

I wanted them featured in here for quite a while already and now with the new album to prove they ain't dead yet, what better time to do it. The core and master minds of BTF are guitar player Vincent Pit and drummer Nabbe The Bastard, but as I had them already Q'd before in earlier issues, respectively for FORCE and LIFESPITE, I thought it'd be nice to give the vocalist a stage in a

currently stageless era. He is a lifer that I have seen perform with several bands in our scene for over twenty years now, a fierce frontman and a strong voice to go with that. So without further ado, here's Stijn Reproach from BLIND TO FAITH.

Interview conducted during August & September, 2020.

Anything you want to cross off this list or add to it to make it a 2020 version?

Stijn: Hilarious! Basically everything can be crossed off that list for me in 2020. I think the Belgian scene nowadays is more interesting than in 2001, more diverse, better bands,... People at shows are also older now and are less prone to bullshit I guess.

2001 is close to 20 years ago by now, a totally different time and world.

#HC: Here's two more things I have to ask reading that interview: how's Colossal Bjorn doing these days (Stijn's nephew and mentioned in the interview as a notorious skinhead - ed.) and do you still skate?

Stijn: Funny that you ask, as Eva and I are going on a camping trip with Bjorn and his girlfriend in two days! Going for some hikes, camping, drinking beers around the fire, telling stories and hang out. I only see him a few times a year nowadays but it's always great when we do. He's also busy with some bands: OXIDIZER (thrash/ grind/ crust) and HARD-HEADED (oi oi oi). I literally know that guy my whole life. We grew up on hardcore punk together, always skated together, drank together, got into trouble together and all those fun times!

I haven't skated in a long time man, probably up to a year or even longer by now. A huge outdoor skatepark opened in Gent which I need to check out but just haven't gotten around to do so. It's also a hassle due to Covid as you need to make

a reservation for it, and wear a mouth mask the whole time in the park.

#HC: Alright, let's get back to BTF. As far as I know Pit and Nabbe write the music mostly. Do they ever come up with stuff that you're not into or do you get to change certain parts for vocals sake? How about lyrics, who writes those?

Stijn: Nope, never happened. Pit and Nabbe are the perfect combo and they never had a song that I didn't like or wanted to change.

The lyrics are a mix both my and Pit's ideas. I'm always on the lookout for inspiration and keep words and sentences in a text file or notebook for future lyrics. Pit also had some parts ready so we got together one evening to put it all on the music, we got through nearly all the songs in a single evening. Pit then fine-tuned them afterwards and we adjusted it here and there a bit in the studio also.

All of the BLIND TO FAITH stuff always happens very organic like that and all of us being on the same line what this band is about both music and lyric wise helps too of course.

#HC: What's a lyric you really like on the new album and what is it about?

Stijn: That will be either "Set Yourself Free" or "Coffin Earth", with a slight preference for "Coffin Earth" so let's go with that one. Those are also my favorite songs on the LP, together with "Endless Stream of Disgusting Li(v)es".

Coffin Earth is about the world turning more and more into shit every single day, it's about our so-called leaders that don't give a fuck besides their own power and it's about how fucked up humanity is. I always had a pretty negative view of the world and mankind in general and it's a relief for me to sing about it to clear my head. My favorite line in that song is

"We're a genuine band that plays as hard as we fucking can."



# FAITH



## SET YOURSELF FREE

### COFFIN EARTH

earth's sadistic  
hangmen  
reaching out  
their hands  
blind you with their lies  
and the illusion of hope

this decaying world  
is spiraling down  
in a merciless pool  
of hate

rats will trample  
the rats  
this time there is  
no escape  
no choice but give in  
and prepare  
for this  
coffin earth

at birth  
they give you a rope  
and the choice  
between  
the noose  
or a leash

train you  
like a dog  
domesticate you  
until they  
finally break you

now here  
is the choice  
between the knife  
and the razor  
now set yourself free

set  
yourself  
set  
yourself free

rise and raise your back  
this life of enslavement  
will soon be over

"rats will trample the rats, this time there's no escape". Mike Cheese does guest vocals on that one and when his part falls in with that line I just wanna smash something. Music wise I really like how that song starts with the caveman drumming of Nabbe, it's like getting punched in the guts.

"Set Yourself Free" is how you are being conditioned from birth on, how there are all these systems and methods in place to mold you into a "good member of society" and a reminder to take back control of your life. "at birth they give you a rope and the choice between the noose or a leash" is my favorite line from that one.

**#HC:** Everyone in BTF has been into hardcore punk and played in bands for so long, you are all genuine HC lifers. When did you first get into hardcore? What bands were you into and did you get a different perspective on certain aspects of hardcore punk throughout the years?

Stijn: I always listened to metal since I was an 11 year old kid. It started out with IRON MAIDEN, then got into SLAYER and that whole wave of thrash metal, from there to the classic death metal stuff like CANNIBAL CORPSE, MORBID ANGEL, GRAVE,... etc. At around 14-15 I saw BIOHAZARD on MTV's HeadBangers Ball and from there I got on into PANTERA, LIFE OF AGONY, MACHINE HEAD,... me and my cousin Bjorn always listened to that stuff together and we looked up to his brother Mario as our musical compass. He was older and cooler than us, had a job and bought tons of records. Of course Bjorn and I always checked out his records for cool new shit.

One day we were hanging out (I was around 16 at the time, 42 now) and we heard new music coming from his brother's room. It sounded like nothing I heard before, there were no lame solo's or long dragged out songs. It was short, to the point and I immediately loved it. That was AGNOSTIC FRONT's "Last Warning" and I remember just looking at the pictures on the CD in awe. The font was so in your face and the pictures of that show looked violent, all these maniacs on top of each other, bandana's, covered in tattoos, the music and the whole vibe had more energy than I ever heard from any metal band and it just felt real. I went all in from that moment on.

MADBALL's "Set It Off" was the first CD I bought myself, which was a game changer for many people of my generation. SICK OF IT ALL was also one of the first bands I checked out. REFUSED "This Just Might Be... The Truth" and "Everlasting" were also very important records for me. Reading in the inlay of "This Just Might Be" the quote "It's not a matter of survival anymore. That is a fact we can't ignore - go vegetarian-" totally blew my mind as a teenager. SLAPSHOT "16 Valve hate" was another one of my favorite CD's back then, hardest and fastest thing I ever heard at that point. Via a friend I borrowed SHEER TERROR's "Thanks Fer Nuthin'" and MINOR THREAT's complete discography CD - I still have his actual CD's now that I think of it...

When I first discovered hardcore it was underground and it was "ours", it was where all the weirdos went that didn't belong anywhere else, people that loved it and didn't care about making money off it or being rockstars. It was all about the passion and doing your own thing, starting your own band, zine, label and whatnot.

To me hardcore and punk is still all that all these years later and I still fucking love it.

**#HC:** What about other stuff you're into besides hardcore? You're into fighting sports if I'm correct? What do you get out of it?

Stijn: I've been doing Krav Maga for about 4 years by now, with some breaks in between due to show related injuries. I usually try to do that once a week, but of course due to Corona our club was closed too. They're restarting slowly now with the needed precautions, but I haven't been back since the pandemic started.

I like doing it because it's high energy, intense training, very practical movements (no kata's or anything like that) and we try to keep it realistic: multiple attackers, being attacked from behind, and so on. Anything goes really. You get to train and spar with a good variation of people which is a great learning experience.

Since Corona playing shows every weekend with the various bands I'm in came to a grinding halt and I found myself with free time that I haven't had in ages. I keep busy now with hiking, biking, some dumbbell and bodyweight workouts, a bit of yoga here and there, some Playstation games, and just a lot more chill time. I can't wait 'till the madness starts again though!

**#HC:** Show related injuries... Didn't you break your leg during DISCHARGE at Pitfest? What happened?

Stijn: We were have a blast and partying hard on Friday at the Pitfest in 2019, DISCHARGE was playing one of their best shows I've ever seen and during one of the stage dives I flipped over and rolled my ankle so hard it snapped my fibula (the bone behind your shin). At first I thought I just rolled my ankle pretty bad so I stumbled outside and it was there that I just couldn't stand on my leg anymore. A friend saw me and helped me to the first care at the festival. They checked it out and also thought it was just my ankle, as that was totally purple and swollen by then. They gave me some strong painkillers (that went great with alcohol) and put a bandage around my ankle. I then went to check out some others bands (I HAD to see SODOM!)



# BLIND TO FAITH



and kept drinking and having a good time. Couldn't really stand on my leg anymore, so I just limped around the festival. That same night we had a huge party 'till the early morning with the people from GENERATION DECLINE who were staying next to us in the camping spot. Slept for a couple of hours, woke up with an even more swollen ankle, back to the festival, got some new painkillers from the first care, new bandages and then played a show with RAW PEACE. I dragged myself around for another whole day at the festival, luckily I was pretty intoxicated and didn't really had that much pain at all. I also just didn't want to be bothered with the injury because I wanted to hang out with my friends and check out the bands.

We got home on Sunday (at this point I could barely fit on my shoe anymore) and finally went to the emergency room where they took x-rays of my leg and saw that it was fully broken, they put me in cast immediately. A couple of days later I had to go back for a checkup and decided to get surgery because that would heal up my leg better and would shorten my stay in a cast. I only had to cancel one show which was right after my surgery but I could play a bunch of shows balancing on one leg and even was able to go to K-Town fest with my cast. After the cast and lots of very intense sessions with a physiotherapist I was able to recover from it. The plate and a handful of screws is still in my leg but it doesn't bother me.

#HC: BTF played some very awesome shows and fests, but I do think that they were all in Holland and Belgium and a couple in the UK. Gigs in Portugal and Germany were canceled. Are there any specific places you would want BTF to play? Or are there any other band objectives for that matter?

"From birth on

there are

all these systems

to mold you

into a

"good member

of society"

Take back control

of your life!"

# BLIND TO FAITH

## Definite show list

2010

the seven fat years?

March 6th, Kortrijk (Belgium), The Pits

First show, obviously, with TRENCHFOOT.

April 11th, Ghent (Belgium), Minus One

With EYEHATEGOD, TOTIMOSHI, GERIATRIC UNIT and MOSE.

April 23rd, Amsterdam (Netherlands), OCCII

With VOORHEES, last CIVIL TERROR show and NEW MORALITY.

2011

July 29th, Mol (Belgium), JH Tydeeh

Maarten Hens' Break Out Fest with CEREMONY, RITUAL, SUNPOWER, SOUL CONTROL, BRUTALITY WILL PREVAIL, OATHBREAKER, NOT AFRAID, ACCEPT THE CHANGE and GET WISE.

2012

May 18th, Venlo (Netherlands), Perron 55

Slow End Fest with DAYGLO ABORTIONS, ANTISEEN, RISE AND FALL, ACID DEATHTRIP, AUNT ACID and acid others.

October 13th, Eindhoven (Netherlands), Dynamo

Bloodshed Fest with DROPDEAD, BY BRUTE FORCE, WOLFBRIGADE and many many more.

October 14th, Tilburg (Netherlands), 013

With KICKBACK and RISE AND FALL.

October 18th, Brussels (Belgium), Magasin 4

With KICKBACK and, in hindsight, the last RISE AND FALL show.

2013

May 11th, Ghent (Belgium), Bakunin's Pogo Bar

HESSIAN "Mänégarm" release show.

May 18th, Maldegem (Belgium), Redekiel

Grof Grief with FAMILY OF DOG, CHEAP DRUGS and weird porngrind bands.

August 18th, Hengelo (Netherlands), Innocent

With INTEGRITY, INHERIT, CORNERED and NO GODS NO MASTERS.

November 13th, Glasgow (UK), Classic Grand

With NAILS, NO ISLAND and NOTEBOOKS.

November 14th, Manchester (UK), Star & Garter

With NAILS and ESOTERIC YOUTH.

November 15th, Bristol (UK), The Exchange

With NAILS and WAR WOLF.

November 16th, London (UK), Underworld

With NAILS and HANG THE BASTARD.

2014

August 8th, Ieper (Belgium), Crossroads of Poperingseweg

Ieper Hardcore Fest with NO WARNING, RINGWORM, CONVERGE and too many others.

2015

March 7th, Antwerp (Belgium), Het Bos

Flexi & comp CD release show

with VICTIMS, WRONG DECISION and WHITE JAZZ.

June 5th, Tilburg (Netherlands), Hall Of Fame

Skate & Destroy Vol. I with DESPISE YOU, BLOOD I BLEED, GEWOON FUCKING RAGGEN, LIFESPITE and SCRAP IRON.

2016

February 28th, Tilburg (Netherlands), 013

Netherlands Deathfest with AUTOPSY, ASPHYX and loads of indecipherable band logos.

November 19th, Nijmegen (Netherlands), Doornroosje

Soulcrusher Fest with ENTOMBED AD, VOIVOD, NIHILL, OATHBREAKER, LORD DYING, GGU:LL and TERZIJ DE HORDE.

2017

January 28th, Sevenum (Netherlands), OJC Walhalla

Fucked Up Fest II with GEWOON FUCKING RAGGEN, PROBATION, COLLISION, CHEAP DRUGS and SICK OF STUPIDITY.

March 25th, Amsterdam (Netherlands), Vrankrijk

NUCLEAR DEVASTATION release show with HERDER and BONES.

May 18th, Antwerp (Belgium), Kavka

With Harley's CRO-MAGS, MINDWAR and ugh, VITAMIN X.



Stijn: Yeah, Portugal and Germany got cancelled back then, but to be honest I don't really remember why exactly (it's been a couple of years ago). We had a weekend tour planned for June in Germany to promote the new record but that didn't happen obviously due to the pandemic. There are no specific places I want to play, whatever is cool that comes our way we'll consider. As far as other objectives go; the new record was our main goal in 2020, which we accomplished. Next up will be to play a live show with those new songs, but with the current state of the world, who knows when that will be...

**#HC:** Do you remember when you changed bass players? Why did that happen? Also, when did Cete came into the picture as a second guitar player and how has that worked out up until now?

Stijn: That was around 2012 I guess and I think mainly because Colin didn't have enough time. Loek stepped in and it was a perfect fit from the start.

My best bet is that Cete joined in 2015-ish, but I'm not sure. Pit or Cete didn't knew either anymore... playing in several bands for that many years takes a toll on your memory sometimes haha.

Cete's a great guitar player and great guy, he improved our overall sound and adds his own thing to BLIND TO FAITH. Having an extra guitar player like him in the band just pushes the sound a bit further over the top which is awesome.

**#HC:** Can you give us an update on your other bands REPROACH and RAW PEACE? How about Gloo fanzine, will there be another issue?

Stijn: We had fun making the first issue and Eva & I thought about doing another Gloo issue for a bit, but it never happened. Doing a zine takes up a lot of time and effort that I just want to invest in other things.

## BLIND TO FAITH

### Unstoppable War



We have 6 songs ready to records with REPROACH, but we need to figure out some more rehearsals which is pretty difficult with Tim living in Paris and me living in Gent. We really wanted to do a 20 year anniversary show in 2020, but yeah.. covid and such...

Our latest release is a CD version of the split tape with TOXIC SHOCK, our friend Hiro put that one out in Japan on Crew For Life Records. A European vinyl version of that release is in the works too -more info coming soon.

RAW PEACE has 10 songs ready to record for a new LP and we're really looking forward to that one. I'm happy we get to at least rehearse pretty regularly and make some noise.

We had a corona proof show planned in Haarlem on the 25th of September but since that whole area of Holland is a "red zone" since a few days we're not allowed to go there anymore coming from Belgium. Fucking sucks.

**#HC:** Alright, thanks Stijn, let's round this up. What slogan would you want on your tombstone?

Stijn: Time is short, navigate by heart.

# Unstoppable War



JUDGED... SHALL BE JUDGED... SHALL BE JUDGED... SHALL BE JUDGED... SHALL BE JUDGED...

# AGNOSTIC FRONT - The Eliminator 2020 7" AA

Totally unnecessary re-recording of two classic songs. Comes with a kind of cool Cause For Alarm devil action figure. But on the the other hand, is 40 the right age to start filling my shelves with toy collectibles? Right.

# AMERICAN NIGHTMARE - Life Support 7" A

AN, a band solely responsible for a whole generation of kids associating hardcore with zip-up hoodies, Beatles hairdos, dramatic poetic lyrics about broken relationships and splatter band logos. Thanks shitheads. Okay, Year One has some killer mosh parts that stood the test of time, fair enough. But this sorry excuse for a comeback? AN on life support, someone pull the plug.

# BIG CHEESE - Punishment Park LP AA

Take a classic NYHC riff, change a chord. Take another classic NYHC riff, change a chord. Yet another classic NYHC riff, change a chord. Play them in a row and you have a song. Repeat this process 8 times and you have an LP. Apparently. The level of unoriginality with this record is insane and I don't understand why people seem to run away with this band. Maybe because of the awesome cover art? That definitely deserved better music to go with it. I'm all for paying tribute to the past, but this is just textbook lawsuit material.

# BODY COUNT - Carnivore LP AAA

With social injustice and police brutality being hot topics in 2020, Mr. Ice-T has found an even bigger grudge to hold. It has come to his attention that apparently there are people that don't eat meat! The horror, the agony, the apocalypse!! Dumb ass. The new BC is yet another batch of SLAYEResque riffs over hiphop groove beats. Not a bad record, but nothing that will change the fact that the self titled debut is all the BODY COUNT a person ever needs.

# CHAIN REACTION - Figurehead 12" AAAA

Bjorn has such a conviction in his voice that even before you read the lyrics you're already on his side of things. As one of the few he still speaks out on stage about what he feels is important, something I really appreciate. Musically CR gets a bit better each release. A solid base of NYHC has a lot more of extra influences this time around to spice things up between the groovy mosh parts. Check it.

# CHANGE - Closer Still LP AAA

A well thought out, well recorded, mature youth crew album. The problem is I don't want my youth crew to be well thought out, well recorded and mature. I want it spontaneous, spur of the moment, energy over tightness cause we only had money for a couple of hours studio time. Preferably by teenagers who are most concerned by who broke edge and with the innocence of thinking this shit world can actually change for the better. The only surprise this midlife crisis brings is the fact that Tim McMahon wasn't involved for a CHANGE.

# COLD AS LIFE - Demos 95-97 LP AAAA

Born To Land Hard is long overdue to get the vinyl treatment. But until then, this demo LP is here to at least spin some of those songs on your record player. Best to see if you can get it from a distro, cause Backside isn't a very trustworthy record label. Just a heads up.

# CRO-MAGS - In The Beginning LP AAAA

Despite its many easy to point out flaws, the biggest one maybe to release it under the CRO-MAGS moniker, this still ends up among my favourite 2020 hardcore records. There can be a million decent CRO-MAGS worship bands, your EKULUS, DOMINANT FORCES and what not, in the end there's no one that can impersonate the CRO-MAGS better than Harley himself. Even when you notice no less than three You Gotta Know intro rehashes, you can't help but banging your head each time.

# GULCH - Impenetrable Cerebral Fortress LP AAAA

One of the more interesting new bands, doing their own thing. Punk, hardcore, D-beat, metal, all mashed into something hard to pinpoint. It's quite the accomplishment to use this many different influences and not sounding all over the place. Seven stomping tracks that will make you forget about social distancing in an instant, looking for someone to slam into. And one ballad to catch your breath before you push repeat. Great artwork too.

# HIGHER POWER - 27 Miles Underwater LP AA

A band that never fulfilled its promise. Starting out as a band that pulled LEEWAY influences and pulled it off too, now has 'progressed' into a 'mature' DEFTONES sound. Guess what, there's already a band that has a mature DEFTONES sound that are actually good at it. They are called DEFTONES, check them out.

# MIDNIGHT - Rebirth By Blasphemy LP AAAA

Definitely a metal band, but just enough d-beat flavour and punk spirit to maybe catch the attention of you, the reader of this hardcore punk fanzine. I'm really into it if that helps. Great vibe, melodies and general good catchy songs with great slogan sing alongs. This is much more MOTORHEAD than WATAIN to give you an idea, but the dark spirit prevails nevertheless. This band has quite the back catalogue to check out too.

# MINDFORCE - Swingin' Swords, Choppin' Lords 12" AAAA

Five turds for style, five turds for execution, no turds for song writing, cause there isn't any. This sounds great, but dissected you're left with bunch of awesome riffs and breaks that never go anywhere. The whole thing comes across as a teaser for a record that never will be. Still a well spend six minutes and if it wasn't for the bullshit concept that the one-sided 12" format is, I would have actually spend money on it.

# RAMALLAH - The Last Gasp Of Street Rock N' Roll LP AAAA

"Whatever happened to that hardcore music we all know and love?" So asks White Trash Rob in the album opener. Well I don't know exactly but on this record it sure as hell get spiced up with a ton of nananas and wohohos. And about 53 lets go's. With BLOOD FOR BLOOD retired, RAMALLAH has become a mixture of all Rob's previous bands and projects. The focus has shifted a lot to melody and the heavy mosh of the first RAMALLAH record seems long gone along with the keyboards of the second one. This might not be the hardcore music anymore we all know, but I for one still love it.

# SCARECROW - Revenge 7" AAAA

Fast aggro D-Beat from Sweden North Carolina. Not unlike TOTALITAR. Nonstop hardcore stomping that makes up for the lack of catchiness. Can't remember a single song after spinning it three times in a row, but still wanna go another round! The vocal reverb trend that's going start to get on my nerves a bit, but it isn't too bad on this recording. Highly recommended riot music.

# SECTOR - The Virus Of Hate Infects The Ignorant Mind CS AAAA

Obviously I'm a fan since I interviewed them. The singer was on the early releases of WAR HOUND and I dig his vocals. Musically, besides sounding tuff as nails, the riffing is also catchy, not unlike FURY OF FIVE and COLD AS LIFE. A quality that's pretty rare in this genre and so all the more appreciated. The album title is also really good and intended or not, perfectly reflects these times, both literally with the pandemic going on, but even more so the polarisation of the societies we live in.

# SUNAMI - Self Titled 7" AA

Heavy hardcore seems to be in style once more. But where bands like SECTOR and PAIN OF TRUTH get everything just right, SUNAMI has everything wrong. Dumbass tuff guy lyrics and mosh calls, pussy this pussy that blah blah, and bad songwriting to go with it. And bad Lockin Out artwork that doesn't fit the style at all. Not badass, just bad.

# TRASH TALK - Squalor CS AAAA

When I heard about this new stuff I was surprised they are even still around. They have somehow transferred to a hipster crowd, but musically this is still very much TRASH TALK and very much hardcore. Theres some electronic beats mixed in here and there, but it doesn't get annoying. Pretty good actually.

# UNITED MUTATION - Dark Self Image LP AAA

A record you have to digest in bits and pieces I guess. Crusty hardcore just isn't well-fitted for discography listening sessions. And though they never reach the quality level of the real d-beat classics, UNITED MUTATIONS did have their own unique take on hardcore punk in the early eighties. As always Radio Raheem has done a top notch job with the packaging, with the thick booklet full of artwork & photos really setting the mood for some HC time traveling.

AA SCARED SHITLESS

AAA SOMETHING SMELLS FUNNY

AAAA A DECENT DUMP

AAAAA THAT'S MY SHIT!

AAAAAA HOLY CRAPPEMOLY!!



# C4

I don't have any special story about how I got to know this band. I was simply crate digging the web for any decent newish hardcore punk music. Somehow between all the CODE ORANGE, KNOCKED LOOSE and DEFEATER bullshit and whatever else apparently gets labeled 'hardcore' these days, I actually found something I liked in the C-4 'Goes To War' demo. Bless Jah for Boston's steadiness in quality hardcore. Real hardcore. Traditional hardcore that gets your fist pumping and your body slammin'. Retro sure, it's 2020 remind you. But not stale or boring, still energetic and fresh. Instant fan shit, at least for me. I got in touch with C-4's singer Owen 'Ozone' Viles in July, 2020 to see what's up. Here goes.

Pics by Spencer Chamberlain.

## GOES TO WAR

#HC: The inevitable first question: who's in the band, who does what and so on, who's most likely not to survive Covid-19 and whatever else the world should know or better yet should not know about your band mates.

Owen: I sing, Doug plays guitar, Sean plays bass and Booj plays drum. Me, Sean and Doug are all in VANTAGE POINT together so that makes it easier to do weekends and shit because in order to add C-4 to a tour or something we literally just text Booj to come. When I was 14 Booj and Doug were playing in this straight edge band called TAKE CONTROL that was like a BROTHERHOOD/CARRY NATION type band. Everyone in the world should check it out. Not sure if someone in our group will get covid but it's gonna be whoever gets exposed to the dunderheads who are all eating at \*insert yuppie wimp restaurant on Newbury street\* "outdoor seating"/traveling to Disney world like a bunch of nerds or the stupid MAGA boomers who think they don't need to wear a mask at Target. Everyone in C-4 is being smart about the disease but the people I mentioned above? They've earned themselves a trip to the morgue when the disease inevitably kicks them in the nards.

#HC: Ah, I didn't know about VANTAGE POINT. That bands seems to be around for quite some years with a slew of releases out. Don't tell me C-4 is just a side project?? why did you start the band and what are your plans with C-4?

Owen: I would say that C-4's not nearly as active as VANTAGE POINT but I don't think any of us view it as a side project to VP at all. C-4 technically started in the fall of 2018 when I had just moved to the actual city. Me and Doug were in VP and wanted to do a band that was like BREAKDOWN/New Breed comp type democore with Doug on vocals. The working title for the band was X-CLUSION. That eventually fizzled out because the songs we wrote were bad and the name was terrible so we underwent some lineup changes and ended up with our friend Booj on drums with me playing bass and Doug playing guitar for the moment. Booj had been in a bunch of bands before and when I was 14 played in this straight edge band TAKE CONTROL with Doug that was like BROTHERHOOD/CARRY NATION type that was awesome so we knew he was good for the job. Everyone in the entire world should listen to TAKE CONTROL. Around this time last summer us three all linked at our space at 1am after each drinking the big Red Bulls from dollar farm and wrote fast, knuckle dragging, mentally deranged hardcore and the C-4 demo was born. Then Doug told me to do vocals instead and I said ok and then we got Sean to play bass because we love him and he plays in every band in Boston so why not. We've written a 12" called 'Chaos Streaks' coming on Triple-B Records in the fall/winter of 2020 and when all this Black Plague mumbo jumbo is over we plan to tour on it some.

#HC: How do you estimate the survival of the moshpit though, considering everyone now rapidly turning into germophobes? It wouldn't be much fun to play a show without the chance of 20 sweaty, heavy breathing coremen slamming the shit out of each other.

Owen: People will want to mosh after all of this for sure. And if not, moshing on people who are afraid of cooties seems more fun anyway.

#HC: I take it you're named after the explosive material? Your music is quite explosive too. If you'd Dr. Phil yourself, what would you say sprouts all this aggression?

Owen: I mainly just write about things that happen in my life that annoy me, like 'Time to Eat' is about retarded drunk Harvard kids holding up the line at Pinocchio's when I'm hungry. I wrote most of the lyrics for the demo when I was living in Allston, which I didn't necessarily hate, but certain people and things drove me crazy. It's an okay place to have a roof over your head but it's filled with hipsters, the Model Cafe, drunk jocks, sororities/frats, people who like Mac Demarco, terrible parties and just overall drunken lunacy. I think shit is so lame. I look at some Mass Art wimp with a septum ring screaming at an overworked CVS worker over cigarettes and I think, that kid is getting brought up in a C-4 song. Plenty of that to see in Rat City. The only thing that doesn't suck about Allston is the McCalliston and Dollar farm. Most of the new songs all have similar lyrical themes that touch upon constipation, landlords, 7-11 and my bike getting stolen. Doctor Phil would probably tell me I need to eat better to which I would respond by giving him a wedgie.

#HC: Track 3 of the demo is called 'Intro/Bashing'. Did it occur to you people might associate the term bashing with "gay bashing"? Especially as hardcore had a history with this in the eighties.

Owen: Hahaha the reason we call it bashing is because of the way that Booj plays drums. He bashes the shit out of his drum set, so that's what we mean by "bashing." Sometimes in practice when we're writing I'll tell Booj we need a "bashing" part and he knows exactly what that means and starts beating his shit (that's what she said). 'Intro/Bashing' is literally just the intro and then bashing. I see the confusion but it's not about gay bashing at all.



#HC: whose little nephew drew your demo cover and what do you dislike the most about the GRATEFUL DEAD?

Owen: Our friend Guilbert drew the artwork. I love his shit man, his art style is very "Demo 88" type. He should draw everything. I specifically requested he draw a picture of an X'd up skin choking a tiny beanie hipster wearing a 'DEAD shirt because you know what I hate the most about them? How many average Joe kids listen to 'Box of Rain' while smoking a bowl of piss with their friends and all of a sudden they become the all powerful Reverend Jim Morrison who drinks lameo gentrified cold brew. who even does that. Why don't you weirdos do something real like listen to MORTICIAN or eat a double cheeseburger pizza or go to Dollar Farm and get some Mike and Ike's.

#HC: Haha, alright. Considering all the X's on the artwork and this conversation so far, it's a safe assumption you're a straight edge band. The edge has always had a stronghold in your city. Are Choke & co. still marching the streets of Boston going 'straight edge, straight edge, in your face; you don't belong to the human race?' Tell me your view on the straight edge in 2020.

Owen: I have the worst diet in the entire world so I'm straight edge so that I can make room for the sheer amount of salt, carbs and calories that go into my body. No vegetables, everything has cheese on it. Essentially, when my cholesterol is over 200 when I'm 60 or now I can say, "at least I'm not addicted to crack, that would make things worse probably." I don't really care who is or isn't edge or who does what or whenever. If you do you probably listen to GOOD CLEAN FUN and wear your MOUTHPIECE shirt over your vineyard vines gray sweatshirt, so maybe just relax because you're not Mike Judge. The golden rule is don't annoy me. I have friends who hit dabs and eat



shrooms and that's tight as fuck. The one time anything like that bothered me was one of my old roommates who I shared a room with had a dab pen and would use it ubiquitously. When I would be sleeping I would hear the clicking noise of the dab pen and it would drive me bananas. One of the songs on the demo is about that. I don't live with him anymore and we're still good friends to this day, but every time I hear a clicking noise from a dab pen it's like glass shards in my ear and I can't help but cringe. I guess you could say I'm unbothered by drugs and alcohol unless you are clicking a pen within my earshot distance. That and DMT. I don't even know what that shit is.

#HC: On the Tribe Dream Records bandcamp there are 5 nicknames in the credits. Who's the fifth, the mystery man? I thought you said you are a four piece?

Owen: That's NT. He has to learn guitar first but he's our numero 5. All I'm gonna say about that.

#HC: Also, are you named after your own song 'O-Zone'? Any good stories on the other aliases?

Owen: I named the song Ozone because I wanted to name a song Ozone and basically just picked a song out of a hat and that was how it went down. Doug gave me the nickname Ozone a couple years ago when VANTAGE POINT went to Canada with another Boston band called ANTAGONIZE. That was the first (sort of) tour I went on in a band and the first time I went to Cananada. I was 17 or 18 at the time and I had a fucken blast. I ate beaver tails and MRIs and almost died on the way to Canada overnight after the first show because the guy driving was taking "the backroads" aka steep icy streets in the adirondacks in -20 degree weather (if you're reading this no hard feelings like I said I was having a blast). I distinctly remember calling Poutine poopline and these two Canucks with us got pretty heated about it. I was also in the middle of No Nut November so I was pretty wired the whole time. None of this has anything to do with why Doug started calling me Ozone on that weekend but I'm sure glad no one called the Mounties. Anyways, Doug is Dunk because he wears dunks, NT is NT because that's his initials, Sean is Spud for no reason at all and Booj is Booj because he has a really long euro name no one can pronounce. I didn't even realize his first name was Devin for like months after we became friends. We went to Roxy's for cheeses once and the waitress called "Devin" and he went up to get the order and I was like "what the fuck is he doing? Is he about to steal a vegan cheese from these two yuppie wimps?" And then he told me his name was Devin and I was like "ok".

#HC: When the new 12" is out it'll end up on my record shelf between THE BYRDS 'Greatest Hits' and CANNIBAL CORPSE 'Butchered At Birth.' How are you all getting along?

Owen: I wouldn't be any prouder to sit between two incredible records. Especially Butchered at Birth. I love CANNIBAL CORPSE. I see my bandmates pretty often these days to be completely honest. We're obviously not going to restaurants or going to parties or anything where there's a shitload of people packed into a room, but none of us have covid so we chill regularly. We usually see each other like 3ish times a week. As I'm typing this I'm hanging out with Doug and Gilbert tonight. Usually we get pizza at Pinocchio's in Cambridge and then go to the North End and get cannolis at Bova's and pretty much just screw around all night in the North End/Charlestown/Zakim bridge area. Especially if it's a weekend night, we'll be out until like 2am and it's dope. That and band practice and Minecraft is pretty much all I do with my time nowadays.

#HC: Will the record be in the same direction of the demo? How would you describe it to your grandma?

Owen: Yeah the record is pretty much the same exact thing as the demo but much worse. 10 songs instead of 6 with more bashing, more moshing, and more heartburn. I have a lot of lyrics about things like buffalo chicken, 7/11, deep frying Allston hipsters, Ringer Park, pizza and my bike getting stolen. I'd tell my grandma that it sounds like something you would find in a porta potty in front of DB's Golden Banana on Route 1 or something you'd see at Target in the freezer with the steak and cheese hot pockets.

#HC: And how would you describe it to your little nephew Gilbert?

Owen: Little nephew Gilbert knows everything there is to know about C-4. It's fast music for slow people.

#HC: Best thing about hardcore punk in 2020?

Owen: Not the internet.

#HC: Worst thing about hardcore punk in 2020?

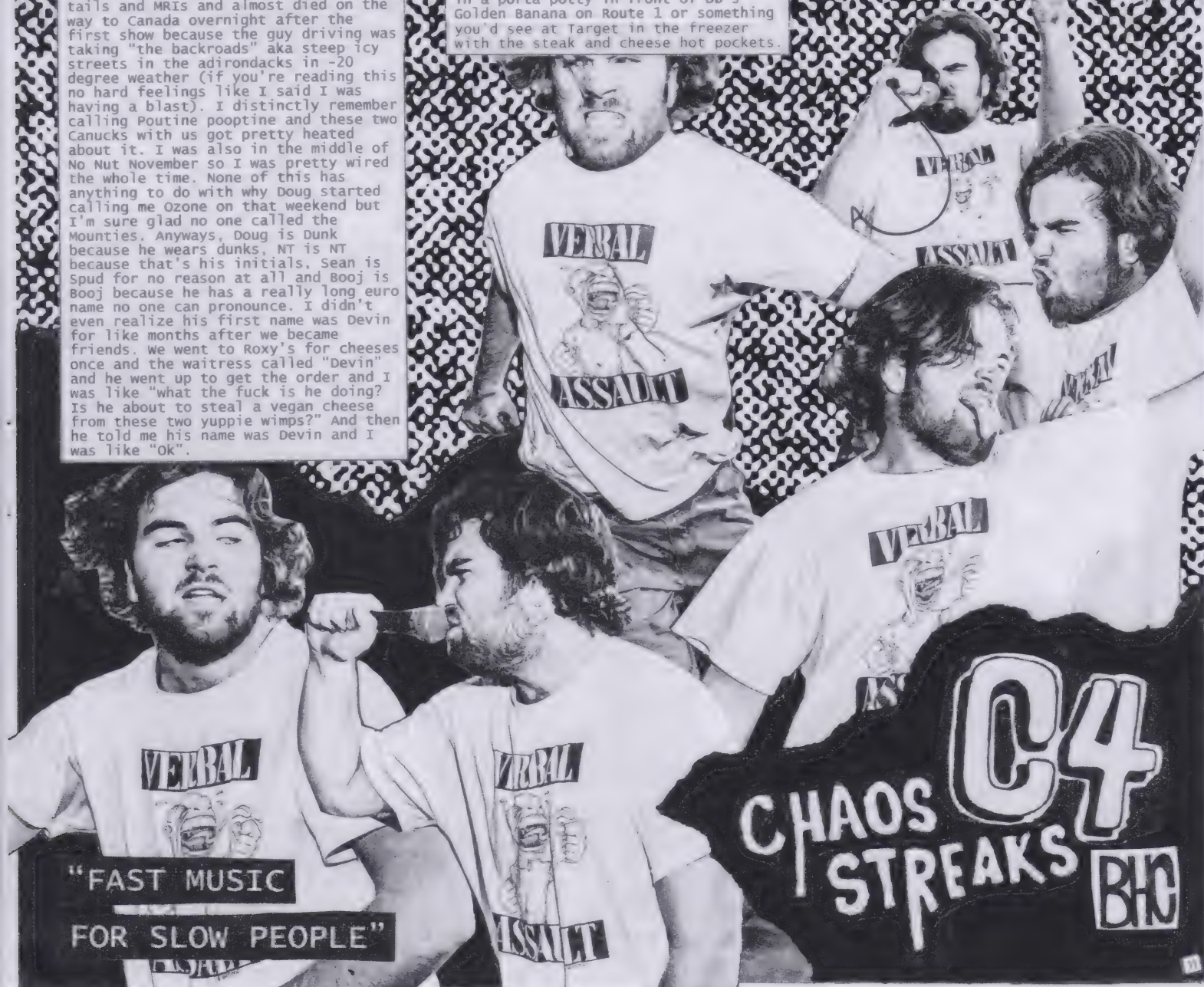
Owen: Fanny packs.

#HC: One more thing, I heard somewhere that Doug and Booj were in this straight edge band TAKE CONTROL that was like a BROTHERHOOD/CARRY NATION type band? Would you recommend checking them out?

Owen: That is correct and yes you should.

#HC: Shout it!

Owen: Shoutout Pinocchio's, McDonalds, BBB records, Bova's, Paul Revere Park at 2am, Tribe Dream Records, Gilbert, Dog Shit, Dog Shit zine, Clint Eastwood and Mountain Dew. Thank you for interviewing me. Thank you to Gratitude Fanzine for putting me through to Dog Shit zine for putting me through to you. Always get garlic at Santarpio's and always be yourself no matter what anyone else, including me, says.



"FAST MUSIC  
FOR SLOW PEOPLE"



# PRESSURE

# ACT

As for current Dutch hardcore, PRESSURE PACT are on top of the game. This tucked in shirt quartet have been coming up fast over the last two years and the promise that was the demo and the EP have been kept with the release of the 'Scared of the Streets' LP, which is a relentless banger with 13 harsh and to the point bursts of anger. There's a lot of N.A. in there as well as 80's Boston stompin' parts and bits of early UKHC. You get the idea. And live it's even better.

Thought I'd do something different for a change and send all the band members a questionnaire to fill in and to send back to me.

As I'm typing this up I have yet to do this, so I'm as curious as you as to how the results will turn out.

Should be on these pages exactly how I received them. Death for Glory! Stub it out!!



Name: LEN Age: 26 City of residence: ELKHORST

Work/study: Tattoo Apprentice / Cigars salesman

What do you do in PRESSURE PACT? I TRY TO SING AND NOT GET TIRED

Guilty pleasure: NO GUILTY'S, LOVE WHAT YOU LOVE, ELVIS, ANDRE HAZES, PRITTY PINK SWEETS

When did you start tuckin' in your shirt? SINCE I KNOW PENIS

Best SHEER TERROR record? FIRST ONE HAS SOME GOOD SONGS

Why do so many hardcore punk bands have skinhead imagery, but rarely shave their heads themselves? IT'S NOT WHAT'S

INSIDE IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW YOU LOOK YOUR NAME, IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE YOUR HEAD. BUT YEAH, MORE PEOPLE SHOULD SHAVE

Were you ever in a fight? What happened? HUMAN MAAL 3, FIRST FIGHT EVER

I'M NOT AN AGGRESSIVE PERSON. SOME GUY WAS SUPER DRUNK AND ANNOYING. HE KEPT SINGELLING ME OUT, MOSHWISE. ENOUGH WAS ENOUGH SO HE GOT HIT

When I grow up I wanna be: BETTER AT TATTOOING, AND A LITTLE MORE CONFIDENT

Draw something:

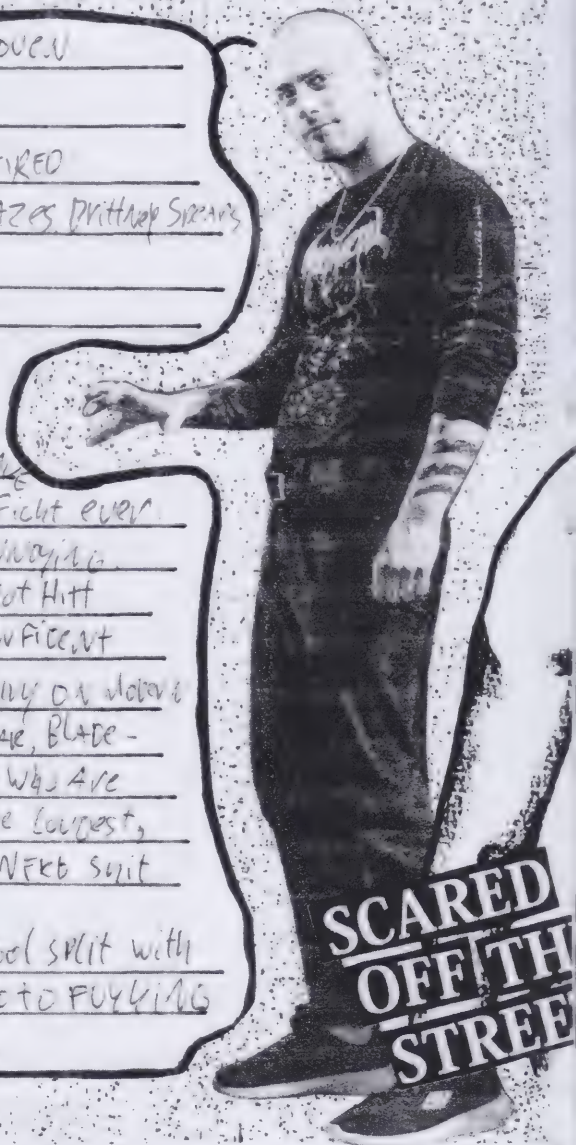
What are your lyrics about? COMMENTARY ON HOW



SKINHEADS, DUMB CO-WORKERS, WARE, BLADE-RUNNER, NERD SHIT, PEOPLE WHO ARE AFRAID TO ACT BUT SPEAK THE LOUDEST, FIGHTING (WITH A REASON), MAN NFKB SUIT

Next up for PRESSURE PACT?

KICKING ASS, GOING ON A COOL SPOT WITH SOME WELL KNOWN GUYS, GO TO FUCKING JAPAN! AND MORE



**SCARED  
OFF THE  
STREET**



Name: Joep Age: 29

City of residence: Tilburg

Work/study: educator/library

What do you do in PRESSURE PACT?

Play bass & make some chuckle

Best thing about hardcore in 2020:

All the Qu-ran zines popping up

First hardcore record you ever got.

I have The Very Crude by TRIST

How did you get it and do you still dig it?

This Routine Is Hell

were a real eye opener for me

but then (2012). Put it up

at a show. Don't play it often but

Last fanzines you've read: Rechnen &

What is the Cro-Ritz? Against

France is our dear friend

& I'm a bass player. He's also

the SOTS cover boy

What's so cool about UKHC? music

education & nice gear heads

Hardcore's best kept secret:

SKINFEST & HAEMERS

What are your expectations of your upcoming

Japan tour? \*Postponed to 2021

- Record making adventures - Cool

beverages - Way too much Heresy -

feeling in life

Who's got the 10%? Help I

don't understand the yach

Worst PRESSURE PACT show:

Both times we played

Katwijk. Ugh.

Never Again

Thanks!

Draw something:



Name:

Rens

Age: 26

Draw something:



City of residence: Eindje Graming

Work/study: Capturing carcrashes on highspeed video

What do you do in PRESSURE PACT? Thrash

Any hobbies? Recording, mixing, artwork/

layout, cooking, fingerboarding, n.v.m

When were you scared off the streets? What happened?

A few years ago I was staying at a friend in Andover, MA

I went down the street in the suburb on a tiny mountain bike

without brakes and 16-tires, unknowing how dangerous it was to

even bike in the USA in the first place. Had to <sup>step my feet</sup> into the road at

the intersection going like 50/60kph. Flailing my arms, like

How do you mosh? I'm stepping on hot coal + sometimes POGO

Favourite Dutch hardcore record:

Pandemonium - Wir Fahren Ins Grüne

What goes on tour, stays on tour.

But what if it didn't? Making Joep

spit toothpaste all over TOM

PIMLOTT's furniture while brushing

his teeth, over the stupidest shit.

And vice-versa the same night.

Yoet DA today!



Pic: Frido Stoltz







Name: Niek Age: 27

City of residence: Tilburg

Work/study: Office Job

What do you do in PRESSURE

PACT? Guitar

Current mindset?

Craving coffee

3 bands that most

inspired PRESSURE PACT:

The Flex Draw something:

Arms Race

You get to thank

1 person. Who and

why? Thustobe

Mozite for his

support, filling in

and roadwork

Worst thing about hardcore in 2020: NO live

shows of course...

Someone you'd like to meet: Nicolas Cage

Why? Why? Whywhywhy? The guy is

fascinatingly weird and we share the  
same birthday!

If life is a bowl of cherries, what am I doing in the pit? Don't chew it,  
swallow it!



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WAUW! DE NIEUWE  
PRESSURE PACT 12"  
KOMT INCLUSIEF 5 DAGEN  
OUD BAMSCHIJF!



Pie Amelone



# 1 2 3 4 ZINE'TJE VAN PAPIER

**Ball Of Destruction #4** - It's assumable that thick full size zines are almost non existent these days because of moronic increased shipping rates. Hence the increasing number of shorter half size zines and one pagers? Well yeah, to some point, but don't forget: compared to writing a great hardcore demo or EP, it's mucho much harder to write a great hardcore LP. That really takes a lot of effort, dedication and inspiration. And it's no different for zines. So where your Chunks and Moshers Delights were the 87 Demos and United Bloods of our times, Ball Of Destruction fanzine can be our Set It Off or Bringin' It Down. But actually, since there's a good amount of rehased material in here, it might be more like that "new" INSIGHT LP: something old, something new, something borrowed... But alas, it's a LP zine in the age of democore one-sheets and that's appreciated. As a bonus, BOD comes as close as possible to simulate a cut'n'paste layout, while keeping the computer benefits of sharp printing and consistency in black toner, so it looks as well classic as current. Same goes for the content that covers four decades of hardcore music and still is up to date with it. I'll sum up the contents just for the record, cause I advise you to get this regardless: Introduction interviews with new breed bands BECOMING, ILL COMMUNICATION and BENT BLUE. Longer ones with the established BLIND TO FAITH and QUICKSAND. The latter one a reprint from '91. Other reprinted or compiled material is on Some Records, from Hardware's Dave Koenig's never printed NYHC book, and HARDBALL, an early 90's hardline band I honestly never heard of before and when I tracked down the music I do understand why, but their singer's retrospective really was a great read. All this re-used material reminded me of the last Ghent Decontrol zine that got some slack for that, but I'm just glad someone put this stuff in print for me to enjoy without getting square-eyed. Topping it off you get some honest opinions in the record, tape and zine reviews and scattered throughout the pages some write ups on live gigs, both 'recent' and memory lane, which were my favourite part and a painful reminder how much I miss hangin' out at shows. 52 pages worth investing in.

**Rage! #1** - Belgian hardcore lifers Dossche and Bompa team up for this rager (doh) of a zine. It's cool to see that despite being around for ages these fellas still check out many a new hardcore band and are genuine excited about them. The interviews are with Norway's WEIGHT, Wilkes Barre's ONE STEP CLOSER and Belgium's own MINDWAR, who seem to be in every zine from around here and rightfully so. Daniel Eyeball from WEIGHT saying he now sort of cringes over EYEBALL had me mesmerised for a bit. Talkin' Straaaaaaight is the best record he was ever involved in, in my humble not so humble opinion. I also learned that Droppin' Many Suckers is not in Den Tonie Van Mindwar's MADBALL top 5. And that when a band, in this case ONE STEP CLOSER, refers multiple times to TURNING POINT, never to mention the demo or the EP, that that is a band I'm not going to like. There's a decent bunch of record and fanzine reviews in here too. Checked them all out and can now add RULE THEM ALL and QUEENSWAY to my stack of favourite current hardcore bands. That's a fanzine's purpose served right there. To mix things up they asked a variety of scenesters about their first hardcore show experience (me too) (not #metoo) and some classic hardcore shows on YouTube are retro-reviewed (INTEGRITY, BURN, THE ICEMEN). The real eye catcher though are the many photo pages, nicely laid out and displaying many favourites of at least the last 3 decades. Next time put some where-and-when info with them! But that's about the only improvement I could suggest for this great new zine. That and to pick up some scissors and glue maybe, although Geert's photoshop skills come darn close. Pick this up, issue 2 out soon!

**Absolute Truth #1** - Pretentious playlists aside, this was a decent read that I got from Canada. RAMPAGE always delivers and I really like FUZE, the band and the short interview. On the other hand there's CREeping CHILL, a band named after a Magic The Gathering card, Erik Gudbranson, an NHL player that is into PARKWAY DRIVE and Aram who talks about his 7th youth crew band in a row, CHANGE. This could make it a mixed bag for me, but I go glass half full and say it's simply a nice mix. The well written record and zine reviews tells me these guys know there shit. And for extras we get a skinhead drawing contest and a NYHC crossword that wasn't too easy; an effective trick to get me into purchasing #2, to check up on the answers. Good effort.

**Boothaeven's #2 #3 #4** - Late to the game, but glad I made it. Of all the new zines this one really took me off guard with a unique style, both in writing (real clever intro words) and layout style (a lesson in contrast). Nr 2 has a black metal focus which actually makes for more interesting interviews than the HC stuff, mainly because BM bands are so much more

pretentious. #3 has got good Spoiler and SHARK ATTACK content, whereas #4 has PRESSURE PACT and the origin of 'bleh'. Belgium's on top of the zine game like it's 2004!!

**Pressure Drop #2** - This Patrick Kitzel/Scott Vogel/Andrew Kline scenester production was pretty expensive to pick up, but that was the only downside. This is packed with cut'n'pasted flyer and photo collages, a good mix of bands/ interviewees: Hoya, CHANGE, Rev Records, a dude from JEDI MIND TRICKS that knows his hardcore punk, the list goes on, and some inspirational intro/outro words. Still don't know what why this had to be so pricy, but worth it in the end.

**Gutter Groove #3** - A drawing of an angry sandwich entitled HATEBREAD, that's my jam! GG3 features BCS, EXISTENCE, INTEGRITY and an E-TOWN retrospective. Besides the record and zine reviews there's a section on BURN influenced bands and a look back on Cartel Records that made me revisit some records I hadn't spun for years. Haphazardly layout, but haphazardly theirs. Endorsed.

**Shit Talk #2** - This shitty fanzine ain't shit at all, but it is all about shit. Disgusting stories involving 'nr 2' by dudes in hardcore bands of which BACKFIRE takes the questionable crown. The text order of some stories got mixed up because of a hasty cut'n'paste job (mea culpa), but nevertheless this shit is a fun, disturbing and a mandatory toilet read.

**Do You Know Hardcore #2 #2.5 #3** - After Chiller Than Most was done Attila focussed on his website to spread zine culture online. Quite contradictory if you think about it. Anyway, the blood crawls where it cannot go, so here are these free one pagers with lots of content cramped in them. Keep 'm coming!

**Hashtag Hardcore #6** - Half size zines suck! I thought this dumba was done, but here he is 3 years later with this sorry excuse for toilet paper. Outdated interviews with bands you've never heard of (HARD SHOULDER? PAIN PRINCIPLE?) plus playlists in unreadable fonts. Get your shit together!

**European Discipline #2** - Some actual cut'n'paste here, the art is not lost! Looks great, reads great. Kristof went solo for this 2nd issue and it's a job well done. 12 pages 'Chunks size' gets you info on BIG CHEESE, MINDWAR and RESTRAINING ORDER plus a no holds barred review section.

**Dogged** - Interesting Q&A with a Dutch politician who once wore a ripped CORNERED shirt in a TV interview. Not into all the bands covered, but a cool effort and all profits goes to a dog shelter, so every \$ on this is well spend.

**Preemptive Fear #1** - Enthusiastic UK dude that somehow is still into JUSTICE Escapades. Lots to improve on the layout front, but got potential in the writing. Could win us over in #2, so cut the online crap and get to it.

**The Swingkid Fanzine #6** - Not a lot of common ground with rest of these zines, but I got it in a trade, which is always cool. Lots of bilingual German/English articles & reviews. Yet to read, entschuldigung!

**Down For Life #10** - Thought I'd give it another try, seein' as it had a big feature on the MINOR THREATS. But this is still trying to be a hardcore's Metal Hammer and thus totally missing the point.

**Soul Craft #2** - Thick packed half sized interview only zine from Greece proves computer layouts drain all personality. Lots of bands, yet to read it, so check it for yourself.

**Crucial Zine! Coronavirus Special** - Freebie with the #1-7 compilation book. Err, yeah, yet to read it, but it seems all about putting back the Ha into HC.

**Nothing But A Fanzine** - Dedicated to BULLDOZE with about all the reprint material I also used in issue 1.5 of #HC. Back To Basic zine rules, OK?

**Mentally Vexed #2** - Yet to read it, but I can't find it anymore. Probably the camoprint front cover. Some KICKBACK content, I think.

**Reaction #12** - Yet to get it, but wanted to mention it as I apparently neglected previous issues that I did get.

**Sailin' On #8** - Awesome CORNERED interview!

"MAND!"



SECTOR (or S3C102) are a hardcore band from Chicago. My pall Gucci made me check them out, saying they were exactly my kind of band. Well he was right. SECTOR take cues from the harder 90's bands like COLD AS LIFE, FURY OF V, DMIZE etcetera. They pin that sound down perfectly. Lots of groove, high pitched snare drums, rough vocals, lots of backup shouts and of course heavy breakdowns. I got in touch with their guitar player Anchit in

August 2020 to get the ins and outs on this band and to see what's up with Chicago hardcore these days.

#HC: Could you introduce the band? Who is in the band, how long are you all into hardcore?

Anchit: We're a Hardcore band from Chicago and thank you for talking to us. I'm Anchit, I play guitar in SECTOR. Serg Mendoza plays drums, Jon Ortiz is on vocals, and Justin Pelkowski on bass. Over 10 years ago I sang in a powerviolence band and there were a few bands from the area I really liked when first getting into hardcore.. SILVERHAMMER, ANY GIVEN SECOND, CHANCES R... Jon and Serg were a part of those bands. They are a little older than me and Justin, and me and Justin grew up going to shows together, skateboarding, and fuckin' around.... I feel lucky that we get to do this with each other at this stage of our lives.

#HC: Wow, powerviolence. How did you get to your current style, just leave out the fast parts? Heheh. Are you into lots of different sorts of hardcore punk?

Anchit: Haha always love the fast parts! Love when Hardcore and music in general is fast and in your face... definitely have tried to incorporate that in the style as well and more so recently. I also play guitar in MH CHAOS and a song we have coming out later this month is the fastest song we've done so far and I love it... I know Serg has been wanting to incorporate that more into SECTOR as well so we'll keep that going. I think it's just a part of who we are and where we came from. Serg's other band SILVERHAMMER was and is a more faster band, but some of the hardest and raw music I've ever heard... I think our love for hardcore is so vast and we love so many different styles, but at the end of the day, we are who we are and whatever comes out of our writing is what we are down for. I love everything from BULLDOZE to NEGATIVE APPROACH and all the random shit in different kinds of scenes in between.

#HC: Since the demo last year, you already have 2 new releases this year. Are both from the same recording session? How do you like the progression from the demo to the new stuff?

Anchit: I've enjoyed how the band has progressed and evolved in our short time and we are all proud of what we've done so far. We've done what we wanted to do for fun and it's been a great time. The Virus of Hate Infects the Ignorant Mind was recorded with Andy Nelson (Bricktop Recording, WEEKEND NACHOS, LIKE RATS) and the This Thing of Ours split with OUT FOR JUSTICE was recorded by ourselves when quarantine started and then we sent it to Taylor Young (The Pit Recording Studio, TWITCHING TONGUES) to reamp and mix... The Virus of Hate is definitely one of our favorite releases any of us have been a part of with how it sounds and how the songs turned out.

Shout out to From Within Records and Dead Sky Recordings for helping us put that out. Shout out to DAZE and Lumpy for being down to randomly put out a split with us just cause honestly we wanted to do something with music when the world shut down. We learned how to record music by ourselves and said fuck it and made some shit.

#HC: I'll get back to the Virus of Hate later, but first that other virus. How has the corona pandemic hit you? Here in The Netherlands it seemed to have mellowed out a bit, but I guess the States is one of the places where the casualty count is highest?

Anchit: It hit pretty hard. It's hard to deny it. My immediate family and some friends lost jobs that they have had nearly the better part of their adult life, so it is sad to see and to see the stress and impact that comes along with it, along with hearing about people getting sick and dying. I think just as everyone, we just do what we can to stay up through these times. Donald Trump and Joe Biden are both fucking idiots so we'll see what happens.

#HC: The other hot topic this year has been obviously the End Racism manifestations. I googled your band and saw that you have a Twitter page where you made a call to stop looting the city. Has there been riots where you live? You also had benefit merch made for the Reclaim The Block organisation. What are they about?

Anchit: That first weekend and throughout the first week, there was looting going on, ruckus being caused, violence occurring... I've been out there though and ever since I mainly only see determined people fighting for a common goal. The dollar store down the street from me was burned into flames, I saw business owners crying in front of their store the next morning, but I also saw a community helping each other out. My mom works at a library and someone smashed through the library window while all of this was going down, and when I went to go talk to her about it she was already saying how she gets it. I mean yeah that shit sucks and

"LET GO OF THE NEGATIVITY IN YOUR LIFE,



people are out there stirring up shit with no desire for change, but she understands... but we don't want that senseless bullshit happening. We don't want police brutality to be happening. We don't want racism to exist because we've felt it. Reclaim The Block is an organization that helps direct funding in Minneapolis in the right areas to benefit the health and safety of the community. We found out they were loaded with donations so we donated to other suggested organizations that were fighting for the cause.

MAL INTENT, BITTER THOUGHTS, BODYBAG, IED, SECTOR, MH CHAOS, INFERNO, SILVERHAMMER, GROUNDS OF EXECUTION, and a few more projects... it was a place where we could do whatever we want, be ourselves, and it felt like home... the place ended up being bought out, destroyed, and repurposed. We had to go to a new spot nearby which was pretty cool for the time being... but unfortunately we got blamed for making a mess at the spot that we didn't do, and the landlord of the spot said some racist shit so we

#HC: So back to "The Virus of Hate Infects the Ignorant Mind". Lyrically, does this tap into that as well? Or was it written with something else in mind? Who writes the lyrics for SECTOR and do you ever discuss them with the band?

Anchit: The Virus of Hate touches on a few topics... letting go of the negativity in your life or taking it on full force to come out better and stronger, our love for our family and the hardcore scene, our brother Dan Bond, and our 1648 brotherhood. It's the numbers of the address of our original practice spot that holds near and dear to our hearts. Jon mainly writes all the lyrics, but Justin will write his own parts, Serg will come up with stuff for his parts as well. Lyrically for The Virus of Hate EP Jon wrote Playin the Part, No Half 2 Steppin, End of the World 86 and I wrote El Respeto and Jon and Justin did their thing with it... the beginning was something Serg came up with on the spot... we're all open to each other's ideas.

#HC: What bands are involved in 1648? It's also a small label that started up this year, right?

Anchit: There were a few other bands in our area who practiced there, but in our room specifically we connected it to the bands we were in...



Anchit: Super grateful that these labels and people are down to work with us and help get our music out there. I actually reached out to Carter and From Within Records... I briefly met him at FYA Fest while he played with PAYBACK XXX, he seemed awesome and his band is awesome, he was putting out releases we liked and asked if he would be down and he definitely was. I've been in touch with Zuma from KRUELTY for awhile and when he heard we recorded something new, he was down to put it out on CD on Dead Sky... can't thank him enough for being down for that. Axl is a great dude and with Filled With Hate, we've always had a connection with him and he made those demo CDs... Mentally Vexed reached out to us which was awesome to hear that people out there heard of us. Lumpy is in OUT FOR JUSTICE and does Daze... when the idea of the split came, he was already down to put it out on CD. We were stoked on how it came out.

#HC: Instead of simply varying with dropped D chugging, your riffs have a sense of melody that makes them stick in my head, which I think makes SECTOR stand out in a beatdown crowd. Is this something you have in mind when writing riffs and what are some of your main influences?

Anchit: Thank you for those kind words and feedback, it truly means a lot that you think of us like that. We definitely try to keep this in mind, and I love playing guitar and love Serg's drumming style, so I think it works out great and is always fun writing music. We love a variety of bands and I think it all goes into our playing style and thought process... Some of our influences are TERROR AVE., RED EYED DEVIL, BIOHAZARD, BCS, EGH, SUICIDAL TENDENCIES, MADBALL, AGNOSTIC FRONT, BREAKDOWN, SHEER TERROR, BULLDOZE, THE KILLER

got up and found a new spot again but fortunately we now love it. We also started that record label under that name and are gonna start doing some stuff with that for sure!

#HC: For SECTOR you have a bunch of other labels releasing some of your stuff: From Within Records from Florida and Daze Records from Long Island, but also world wide like Filled With Hate from Germany, Mentally Vexed from the UK and Dead Sky Rising from Japan. Did they all approach you or how did this happen?

TAKE IT ON FULL FORCE TO COME OUT STRONGER"



# "WELCOME TO OUR CITY, WHERE WE SHOW NO PITY."

to name a few direct influences... We also like a lot of hip hop and random shit that goes into our writing style as well.

**#HC:** Are you by any chance familiar with SEKTOR (with a K), the Belgian H8000 metalcore band from the 90's? How did you come up with the band name SEKTOR?

**Anchit:** Yes! That band is awesome... Much respect to them. When our friend Daniel Bond passed away, I got one of his skateboards. He would ride it around here and there at a skatepark in Logan Square in Chicago and would tell me to meet him up hahaha. Serg, Jon, and I played in a band called MAL INTENT together, and we knew we wanted to do something together and we were thinking of names. I was looking at Dan's skateboard and on it, it said "Sector"... I brought it up to the rest thinking maybe we should name the band SEKTOR 312, a Chicago area code added on. Serg brought this idea to integrate the 312 actually in the name so we also originally were calling ourselves S3C102... but also we think SEKTOR now represents that alone.

**#HC:** So what do you want for SEKTOR in the future? Anything specific lined up yet?

**Anchit:** We want to keep writing music, keep having fun together, playing shows down the line when it's possible, maybe do a music video, start writing a full length record after some demos... Serg and I learned how to record music so it's been a great time sending music back and forth and coming up with ideas. We just want to have fun and represent our culture and hardcore scene.

**#HC:** Spill the beans on the Chicago scene 2020. Anything we should check out besides SEKTOR? Do you know what's up with WAR HOUND? Are they still a band? I was really into their early stuff and also the Colder Than Ever LP, but then they went "next level". HARM'S WAY is another Chicago band that made quite the musical switch..

**Anchit:** Thank you for asking that. Besides SEKTOR, like I mentioned before I also play in MH CHAOS, which was a product from a band called BITTER THOUGHTS that I was in with TJ and Beaver who play in MH CHAOS as well. We also have a band called GROUNDS OF EXECUTION that I play drums on and our boy Julian does vocals on... we plan to do more. We

have a new band in the works called STORMBLAST that will resonate with some MESHUGGAH influence... a new BODYBAG album has been talked about. I also play bass in a band called ABSENT MIND, Serg sang in INFERNO and played bass in SILVERHAMMER and BODYBAG... Justin is in a more punk style band called ASHTRAY. We all love playing and making music, so we try to never stop. WARHOUND isn't really a band anymore from my knowledge... Jon, the singer for SEKTOR was actually the singer for WARHOUND up until they changed it up, and I agree, that early stuff is awesome and was a huge part of my life. I loved HARM'S WAY growing up and still like what they do, we don't really know them on a personal level, but I got respect for them. WEEKEND NACHOS was a great band filled with great people that I must mention.. John from WN recently started an awesome band called SAWBLADE.... Can't go any further without mentioning THE KILLER. They still hold the crown. I can't thank Shane Merrill enough for what he has done for all of our bands and putting us on shows, and putting us out there. Luke the singer is so supportive of us as well, and we've got mad love and respect for them. I would say a band I would want people to check out from Chicago if you haven't before, is DECLINE and LIKE RATS.

**#HC:** Thanks a lot for doing this interview, Anchit. Any last message you wanna get out there?

**Anchit:** Thank you to you, Daan, for wanting to talk to us. It is much appreciated, and so much love and respect to you and HASHTAG HARDCORE. We are honored to be a part of it. Last message I'd like to say in this world of shit, and this is a reminder to myself... get off the normal day routine, pick up a skateboard and skate the curb in front of your house, start a shitty punk band, say some bullshit into a microphone and put it on youtube, fall in love with a band and research them for weeks on end until you feel like doing that with another band... try accomplishing your goals without paying people to do it for you.... try some shit, do it bad, and then do it good maybe down the line.... I'm not trying to shove anything down anyone's throat... I think the world would be a better place if we all did things we enjoy.

## CHICAGO HARDCORE





# The Wrong Side

a.k.a. **Dump Truck**

*Let's have the best for last. And listen up, cause this is another Lockin' Out exclusive! From the vaults of Drug Dogs fanzine comes this unpublished WRONG SIDE interview with Chris Morgado from 2010. From all the LOC bands, for some reason, for me they were the most elusive. Maybe, or probably, cause they never toured here in Europe, or even at all really. As I recall, at one point rumour had it Morgado wasn't even a real person, but just one of the MENTAL dudes dressed up as an alter ego... Anyway, this read clears a lot of the smoke and put them in the spotlight they always deserved. Just remember wherever it says 'right now' or 'some years back' it all means waaaay back by now. So enjoy and let's start with the original intro by Dylan Chadwick. Thanks bro!*



*I've thought about death twice. Once on the business end of a derringer pistol, and once during a little league game. The common tread here is that living, by definition, is actually dying and leaving behind a beautiful corpse isn't always in the cards. Cool straight edge bands come and go like farts at an old folks home, and most of 'em don't amount to more than a hill of baked beans, but THE WRONG SIDE ruled. Interview conducted with frontman, mosher, illustrator multi-man, Chris Morgado. The context's a touch dated, but the content's still poppin' fresh. Til' the ink leaves yer fists, ya ninnys...*

**So from the top, let's talk about the band...**

DUMPTRUCK was literally me singing for MENTAL with the band tuned down to D; it pretty much stemmed from me being the roadie for MENTAL and singing DOWN BUT NOT OUT covers with them and moshing on stage to the Invasion intro...which at the time was called "The March of the Cockroaches."

**How did you and Greg Willmott meet each other? Had you played in bands together before or anything like that?**

Greg and I met because of DFJ. He gave Greg my screen name because he knew Greg and I both wanted to be in a band, but it ended up with DFJ and Greg doing a band instead and then I finally met him in person when MENTAL finally played their first show.

**So, did DUMP TRUCK start as a side project or did you wanna make a record from the get-go?**

It was a side project, but once we had our own songs the plan was always to do a record on Lockin' Out and play shows and stuff.



**Who wrote "Sucker punched?"**

I wrote the lyrics one night at DFJ's when he and I were talking about doing a joke tough guy band that sounded like BREAKDOWN...it was the song that was going to sort of give away the joke that the whole band would be a lie. I never really made the joke/tough guy part of the deal work in the lyrics, so when we ended up doing a real band that actually sounded like BREAKDOWN; I just used the same lyrics. Dookie wrote the riffs, then him, me and DFJ put the demo songs together in one afternoon and recruited Scace...probably because he had shown up for MENTAL practice.

**In the Feelin' Good cassette, Ben Cook is credited for coming up with the name DUMP TRUCK. What's the story?**

In 2001 I was going to do a zine called Suck My Dick Fanzine. I only ended up doing 3 one page issues: 2 then and one for Edge Day a couple years ago. I had a bunch of stuff stocked up to put in it; I just never got around to using it. One of the interviews was DFJ, Dolloff and I "interviewing" Ben. It was ostensibly a NO WARNING interview but really it was just us all being ridiculous: talking about HR having a spaceship and dragon tattoos only being OK if you listen to MERAUDER... really nothing rational at all. One of the things that came up was Elijah and DFJ going to tea with JJ and Mackie after one of the first CRO-MAGS comeback shows at CBGBs. From that it spun off into me and Ben joking about changing the zine name to "Tea Time Fanzine"... after that whenever he and I talked it was pretty much just about tea and things to do with Tea Time Fanzine. Somewhere in there, I have no idea how, he told me if I did a band it should be called DUMPTRUCK, and when I actually did that's what we named it.

**So why the name change?**

Basically, the change was because we got "AMERICAN NIGHTMARE'd" by some early 90s indie rock band also named DUMPTRUCK that happened to be from Boston. I guess they just so happened to do a reunion tour right when we did the demo, and got wind of a show we had with CLOSE CALL at the Middle East, so they called Scace, threatened us with a lawsuit, name-dropped DINOSAUR JR, and then made fun of us in the Boston Phoenix for not knowing who they were (because hardcore kids who haven't grown their hair out or broken Edge yet would totally know an obscure major label wash out). "Whipper-snappers" I believe was the word used. Obviously no one with a brain would have ever been confused, but DUMPTRUCK was kind of a joke name any ways so we just changed it to THE WRONG SIDE.

**What did they say about DINO JR?**

They didn't name drop them in the Phoenix...that's when they called us "whippersnappers." They name dropped DINO JR when they talked to Scace. Just basically citing it as an example, but in a totally douchey "we know them and they didn't complain" way.



Did THE WRONG SIDE ever officially "break up?" I remember like back in 2005 there were some "Last Supper" shows that me and my buddy wanted to fly out for...but then you guys were on the bill for United Blood 2008...

We've officially broken up a bunch of times. We broke up when Dookie quit the band to focus on MENTAL...then we reformed with Lomon from CRUNCH TIME on guitar with Scace and Greg on bass...we broke up when I decided everyone wanted the band to be a joke because they were suggesting we change the name to "HARD HAT"...we reformed with the original line up when Dookie wrote the riff to "Hangman's Noose" and Jay Reason told us Stillborn wanted to put out the CD...we broke up when MENTAL went on tour even though we had Stillborn Fest shows booked...I was supposed to find a new line up which would have included Shawn from THINK I CARE but then everyone got mad...



The Wrong Side is like a dead horse that keeps getting up after being beaten into oblivion. It's a zombie horse.

Wait, why?

Basically after the Stillborn Fest mess DFJ and I both agreed I needed to create a WRONG SIDE line up separate from any LOC bands, because it was making it impossible for us to do any touring or anything like that. I don't remember if DFJ was going to stay in or not. Anyway, Shawn was the first dude I asked, and he was all gung ho about it, but then various LOC people got bummed on taking it out of the family...not that anyone didn't like Shawn or anything, but Scace still wanted to be in the band and felt like I was booting him or some shit and it bummed people out, so it just kind of fizzled before it got started.

Right, so the breakups...

OK, we FINALLY broke up and had the Last Supper show because I was sick of turning offers away because MENTAL, RIGHTEOUS JAMS, and even MIND ERASER (who had just started) were all considered a higher priority than THE WRONG SIDE going on a US tour with MADBALL or Europe with TERROR or doing two weeks with DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR and BLACKLISTED. It's cool, I understand it- those dudes were getting to do all that shit on their own anyways on their own terms with their own band at the top of the bill; I just was tired of saying "Yeah that's nice of you to offer... but we can't. No, I don't know when we can. No, we can't even play one show even though it's three months notice." It just got old. And naturally, now that we've played a show here and there, I still have to give that answer at least twice a month.

Then the "reunions"...

The "reunion" shows really just have to do with us getting to do things we wanted to do with THE WRONG SIDE but never got to. I think the first "reunion" we played was so we could say we played a Cali show, and then we did another so we could play CBGBs, and then that turned into a weekend of shows, and then we did another because I wanted to play the legendary Middlesex Community College, and then we said we'd play Lockin' Out Fest as the special guest... none of those shows were OG line up's but I consider them legit line up's as we always had brand name dudes filling the shoes of whoever was missing. We did a legit reunion show with TERROR last winter because we were all actually going to be in Boston for the holidays, but it got moved to NH at the last minute due to some fat clown screwing up the Cambridge Elks for everyone, and that along with the weather I'm sure kept some people from getting to see us. It ended up being a great show through and through though. United Blood was kind of a weird deal, there were rumors on message boards and stuff that we were playing, but no one had ever asked anyone in the band. Turns out Chris Corry had been asked to ask us, but he forgot. It all worked out though. One of the dudes putting on the fest (Foster) was in the Cali line up of THE WRONG SIDE, and all the other bands DFJ and Scace were in were playing anyways, so it's not like we would have said no. We played As One for similar reasons; Craig Mack is one of my oldest and dearest friends and he asked us so we said yes. Originally As One was going to be an OG line up reunion, but Dookie ended up having family obligations. Next we're playing the ABSOLUTION reunion in August, because what kind of moron would turn down playing with ABSOLUTION?

What is THE WRONG SIDE's current status? Active? Inactive?

I don't even know what you could call us. We're like a dead horse that keeps getting up after being beaten into oblivion. We're a zombie horse. You definitely can't really call us active, we all live in different states (DFJ is a Boston based nomad, Dookie lives in Cali, Scace is opening a gym in Arizona, I help run a moving company in NY), and DFJ and Scace are in touring bands. I guess the word would be "indefinite hiatus". I have no plans on doing anything after the ABSOLUTION show, I really want to do a new band and stop beating the dead horse. I keep saying that, and I keep saying I don't want to do TWS shows unless it's the OG line up, but people keep asking, and I really like playing so who knows? Supposedly Dookie and Delong from NO WARNING are working on songs for us to demo for a new record, we'll see what happens, or even IF that happens.

In Dumb Hardcore #3 you dispelled the rumor that there'd be a WRONG SIDE record on PAINKILLER. This was some time ago and you also said that there were no real plans of writing new material. How did the 7" on TRIP MACHINE come to be? Did he approach you or what?

Chris Trips is a long time friend of DFJ and myself, and approached us for that one. It's not new material; just the DUMPTRUCK demo and some songs from our set at United Blood. I guess it actually sold really well for him, and he's actually going to do a second press. The only band I've been involved with that Painkiller would want to put out is DBNO haha.





**Art**



**About your art, when did you get bit by the drawing bug?**

My parents are both artists. My dad used to do the kid's placemats at McDonald's and stuff. The one they have on the booster seats, with all the characters in hot air balloons or whatever? That was my dad originally. I'm sure they had some hack change it by now, what with them having gotten rid of all the characters like Mayor McCheese and Captain Crook who were around when my dad originally drew it. Anyway, it's just hereditary. I doodled at school and stuff, to the point where when some dick graffiti'd a desk in 9th grade, I was the one that had to sit in detention. Because even though I only sat there one out of seven periods of the day, I was the one who drew shit on his notebooks and arms so OBVIOUSLY I'm the one who wrote an obscenity on a desk. Obviously.

**Still though...despite the graffiti "incident" though are they supportive of your art?**

Haha yeah, they had my back on that. My dad actually doesn't think I charge nearly enough when I do shirt designs and stuff for people, but I'm well aware that most of the people who want me to draw stuff are broke.

**And both parents were artists? What did your mom do?**

I think she went to Mass Art for fashion design or something like that. She doesn't actually do it for work or anything, but she and my dad do a lot of work in community theatre and my dad does the sets for the school he teaches at so she does costume design for both of those.

**And your dad was an illustrator for McD's just working freelance or what? Like did he do other stuff? Did he actually come develop the characters?**

Freelance. He also did stuff for Disney and like kid's cereals and stuff. It was mostly like internal promo art to sell the company on the toys that would come in the boxes...that sort of thing. Growing up there was this big file cabinet that I wasn't supposed to touch just full of flattened cereal boxes...there was one where Tony the Tiger looked like abstract art and like... Count Chocula and Fruit Brute stickers and stuff. I wrecked most of it by actually sticking them on things, cuz I was like 8 and stupid. He also did one of the Care Bears books...but nah he didn't actually come up with the characters.

**Man, I'd forgotten all about those McD's characters until just now. Grimace and that bird and the singing chicken nuggets and the fuzzy pom-pom things with long legs... Do restaurants still have characters? The Burger "king" I guess....**

Ok, here's the thing, I actually got curious and looked this shit up after I mentioned the placemats, and what happened was that the ad agency that came up with the whole McDonaldland concept, with like the Apple Pie Trees and Mayor McCheese and stuff, had Sid and Marty Krofft (the guys who did HR Pufnstuf or whatever that show was) either come up with it or tried to get them to help make it, but then didn't give them any credit and basically copied some of their Pufnstuf characters. So they ended up suing McDonalds and that's basically why McDonalds had to get rid of everything except Ronald. The Hamburglar, Grimace, and the Fry Guys. The whole "parents letting their kids get fat" thing has pretty much killed all the cool characters from when I was a kid- all the Hostess characters are gone (I can't see myself eating a Hostess fruit pie that doesn't have Fruitpie the Magician on the wrapper), some of the breakfast cereal companies have agreed to stop using cartoons to market to kids... I know Ronald McDonald is still around but I have no clue about the rest of the McDonalds characters; I'm a Wendy's guy anyways. The "Burger King" totally doesn't count haha.

**Can you remember what your very first shirt design was?**

I'm sure I did some goofy shit for my band in high school, but the first real one I think was the INVASION shirt with the dude holding up the band name on his rings from Posi Numbers 2002.

**Did they come to you?**

They needed a shirt for Posi Numbers and Standhard knew I could draw, so he asked. Before that I had only ever done fliers. It wasn't really until after I drew all that stuff for MENTAL that other people started actively hunting me down. Most of the stuff I've done that people have paid for I haven't even seen. I know this one band used a design because I saw a kid with it tattooed on him haha.

**Tattooed?**

It was this shirt design I did for this band called IN ARMS REACH, I think was their name...a European band. I didn't even know they had made the shirt! They had asked me to take out the background of the design because they didn't care for it, and never responded when I revised it. Guess they just took care of it themselves.

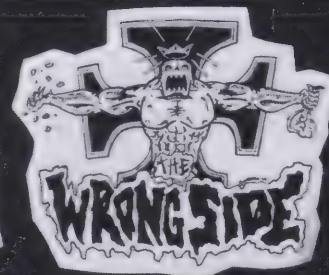


**Do you ever see any of the designs you've done and wish you hadn't done it or think..."man, I could've made that one look so much cooler..."?**

Oh totally. I don't really want to bum people out by naming names, but there's definitely stuff that I phoned it in on. Colin Of Arabia even called me out on it during a trip to Sliders a couple months ago haha. I will say that I kind of blew it on the CRUNCH TIME layout- Barrow gave me a good chunk of change for that and so far as I know they were happy with it, but I never really was happy with how it came out when they printed the covers. The MENTAL elephant design was supposed to be a full color shirt for B9, but they didn't go for it...

**What are some of your favorite designs you've done? I really like the OUTBREAK one with the blood spattered doctor...**

Either the cover to the MENTAL Demo II 7 inch that just came out on Six Feet Under Records or the NEW LOWS shirt with Death fucking an octopus woman is my favorite recent design. I've done too many to reach farther back than that haha.



**Do you still get asked to do stuff much?**

Not so much. That's kind of OK though, it takes me so long to get a finished product done lately that I end up feeling guilty about the wait and refunding some of the money in order to try and keep people from wanting a full refund. And I can't afford to do either one!

**So is it archived? I remember a Morgado Myspace...**

Yeah, but it's hardly complete. Chrismorgado.com used to be a real site, but my ex-wife was the one who set that whole deal up, and I ended up just letting the domain expire.



Aight, let's talk about hardcore. On the Trumbull blog's year end wrap up of 2010, you wrote about some memorable Boston shows. At one point you mentioned never feeling more connected to hardcore than when MENTAL was a band... Besides the obvious connection through your bands, why is this?

Just because it was the most involved I actually was with things. I was getting in the van, I was doing flyers and shirt designs for kids all over the place, I was actually meeting hc kids from outside my local scene... I had done all that stuff before but on a much smaller scale. Like I did all that stuff for DBNO and PROCLAMATION, but they never actually went on tour or reached the level of MENTAL or RJ's. So really I guess the "obvious connection" IS the connection.

You also talked about AMERICAN NIGHTMARE shows. A lot of kids now like to "blame" them for lame trends and sort of scapegoat them for making hardcore "wimpy and poetic" or whatever. Regardless of their later records, if people knew their history they'd have a different thing to say I think... I mean Wes was a scrapper in his day. Lots of stories of him busting people's faces and shit. As someone who actually witnessed them in their early stages and their prime, what light can you shed on some of these misconceptions?

AN didn't exist in a bubble. I think people look at them as this entity that was always outside of the regular hardcore scene, like they think they were poetry majors with instruments that actual hardcore kids who were into CRO\_MAGS and MADBALL didn't like. What they don't realize that when AN started, they were just like every other hc band who starts out with a demo and brings their friends to shows to mosh for them, and those friends included dudes like AJ and Clevo from STOP AND THINK and Joey C from RIGHTEOUS JAMS. It would be Straight Edge varsity jackets and CORNERSTONE shirts over hooded sweatshirts pig piling on people who had no clue what was going on. I mean, AN used to have an intro that straight up existed just for moshing. That's what got them popular at first; they'd play a show and all their friends would go off for them and it would make them look like the biggest band on the planet, and that made people want to check them out, and then they'd get into Wes' lyrics from there. That was actually what the criticism of AN used to be: that

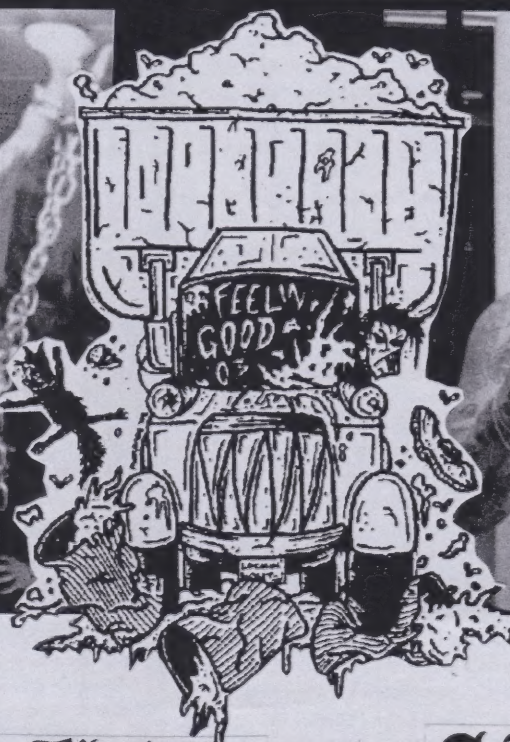
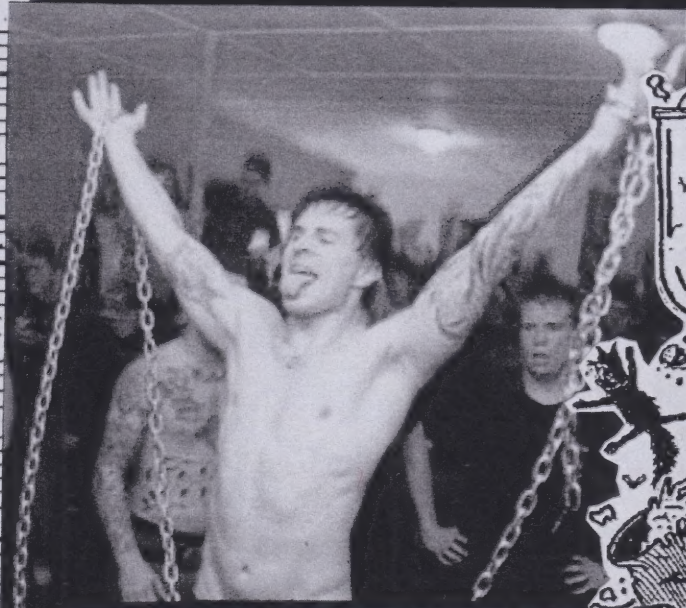
the singer wrote good lyrics but they were generic and sloppy live and the only reason they were popular was because their friends made them look good. Which maybe was true, but they had "it", you know what I mean? Like you put all that stuff together and it just worked. There was an intensity and charisma there that another band doing the exact same things wouldn't have had. And yeah, Wes was a pretty tough kid. I know people can't reconcile that with the current image they have of the guy, but it's true. It's actually funny to me that kids can't get a handle on that; it's not like Wes was even the first dude willing to hit you with a padlock to be putting. I guess you'd say emo, emo lyrics to mosh parts. REACH THE SKY was doing it first in that era; Ian will hate me for saying it but sorry brother, you're a tough dude, no quotes needed, and before them even a band like SHEER TERROR... I mean, go read some of Paul Bearers lyrics to songs, a lot of them are just as vague and arty as anything Wes ever did. But he's probably the first one a lot of younger kids who got into hardcore in the 00s were exposed to, and so for those kids it would become either they're the greatest band in the world and Wes is my hero, or they're the worst band in the world and they're ruining hardcore.

So your reputation as a moshers precedes you...at least in publications I've read. I won't ask you to re-tell the "chain" story if you don't want...

If you're talking about the infamous chain mosh pics from "The Last Supper", that wasn't even me! (laughs). That was Colin Of Arabia and P-boy's brother Jimmy Knuckles. All I did was bring the chain... I bought it for our intended last show at Posi Numbers; it was going to be Martin from DONNYBROOK on the other end with Colin. I was also the one who brought all the water balloons for MURPHY'S LAW that year...me and P-boy. We wanted to fill them with beer but the funnel we got didn't cut it so we settled for water. But I digress...

Still sounds pretty rad. Let's finish with your top moshing moment?

Man, I dunno. Attaching Jimmy K to Tall Colin with a chain and making them promise to mosh as hard as they could? I literally can't think of anything that doesn't sound lame. Either I'll say something that makes me look like an asshole, or I'll sound like a dork. Not that both those things aren't true...



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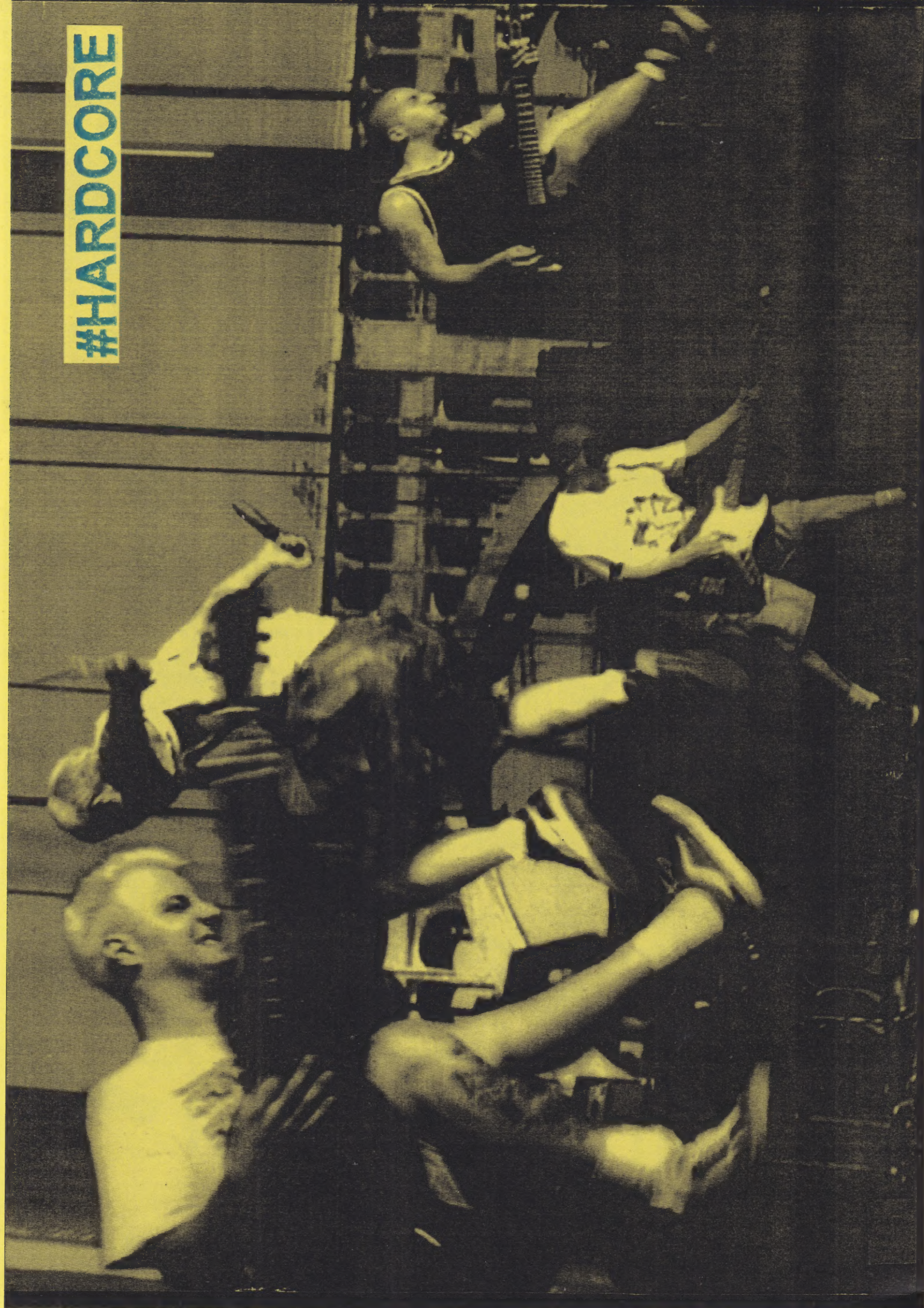
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